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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rahal, James Examiner: Winkler, Ulrike
Serial No.: 09/935,966 Group Art Unit: 1648
Filed: August 23, 2001
For: Methods of Preventing or Treating West Nile Virus and Other Infections

Customer No.: **23719**
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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August 6, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed July 8, 2003, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse the subject matter of Group II, claims 5-9, but expressly reserve the right to pursue the non-elected embodiments at a later time in one or more divisional applications and/or continuation applications.

REMARKS

The Examiner has made a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between the inventions of:

Group I: claims 1-4, directed to methods of preventing or treating West Nile virus with ribavirin;

Group II: claims 5-9, directed to methods of preventing or treating West Nile virus with interferon alpha-2b;

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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